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LETTER DATED 12 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit, enclosed herewith, the letter by His Excellency, Mr. Milan Panic, Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, addressed to you.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dragomir DJOKIC
Ambassador
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

11 November 1992

The Government of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, aware of the serious and complex nature of problems existing in the Autonomous Province of Kosovo and Metohija, has given highest priority to the efforts to solve them. In that respect, I have made personal efforts, including two visits to Kosovo and Metohija, when I talked with representatives of the local authorities and citizens in that region. Particularly important was my meeting with the Albanian minority leader, Mr. Rugova. I visited Kosovo and Metohija for the second time with the Co-Chairmen of the Conference on Yugoslavia, Mr. Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen. Their intermittent efforts are extremely important in the process of addressing the current problems. I would like to stress here that my approach to this process does not differ from the one espoused by the two Co-Chairmen. It is based on the following points:

- Kosovo and Metohija is a part of Serbia and Yugoslavia and the solution of problems there should proceed from full respect for the integrity of the territory of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and inviolability of its borders;

- Kosovo and Metohija should have its autonomy within the Republic of Serbia;

- Solutions will be sought in dialogue, peacefully and step by step, by taking up specific problems and without conditions;

The Conference on Yugoslavia, and its Special Group on Kosovo in particular, whose members have visited the Province more than once, will continue to address the problems identified there.

Under the Memorandum recently signed by the FR of Yugoslavia and the CSCE, a CSCE mission is now in Kosovo and Metohija in order to facilitate the initiated dialogue and help create conditions for full exercise of the rights of all ethnic minorities and citizens of Kosovo and Metohija.

There has been some progress in the discussions held so far between representatives of the Government of Yugoslavia, Government of Serbia, local authorities of Kosovo and Metohija and Albanian representatives, especially regarding all schools and educational institutions working on a regular basis, which can be expected to happen by the end of this month.

I would like to recall the report of the CSCE mission which visited Kosovo and Metohija last June, stating that it had noticed no unusual military activities other than small-scale routine transport ones, and that no military activities had been undertaken against the people of Kosovo and Metohija. The Special Rapporteur of the United Nations Commission on Human Rights,

Mr. Tadeusz Mazowiecky, also adopted a positive attitude towards the initiatives my Government has taken to improve the situation in Kosovo.

The main obstacle to the stabilization of the situation and the reaching of a solution in Kosovo is the policy of secession pursued over a longer period by the leaders of many Albanian political parties.

The requests contained in the letter of Albanian Prime Minister Meksi sent to the President of the United Nations Security Council on 29 October 1992, to place observers along the internal administrative border between the Autonomous Province of Kosovo and Metohija and the remaining territory of the Republic of Serbia; to withdraw the Army of Yugoslavia from Kosovo and Metohija and establish a no-fly zone over the part of the territory of the FR of Yugoslavia which includes Kosovo are all aimed at laying the groundwork for Kosovo's secession. Ironically, all these measures are described as "preventive means", while they essentially pose a threat not only to the process of political dialogue embarked upon in Kosovo, but also to peace in the entire region.

Continuation of such a policy by Albania and attempts to undermine the territorial integrity of Yugoslavia constitute a real danger to, and undercut the efforts of my Government, which are supported by the international community, to bring about a peaceful solution acceptable for all citizens of Yugoslavia, including those of Albanian origin.

The Government of the FR of Yugoslavia is making efforts to promote its cooperation with all neighbours, which was why I also visited Albania on 10 August 1992.

I put forward to the Albanian Prime Minister A. Meksi a number of proposals concerning the promotion of economic and other cooperation between the two countries, including the opening of borders and joint ventures in the economic area. I was surprised that all my proposals were refused.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate, Mr. President, that my Government will continue its policy of peace as well as efforts aimed at the realization of all human rights for all citizens of Yugoslavia. In doing so, we will pay special attention to the status of the Albanian minority in Kosovo.

(Signed) Milan PANIĆ